

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 H-02 SCA-01 /017 W

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P 231015Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8191

UNCLAS DACCA 4700

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : CASC (MCCOY, RICHARD M.), BTRA

SUBJECT : CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY

REF : A. STATE 225735 B. DACCA 4026

C. STATE 196898 D. DACCA 4097

E. DACCA 4020

1. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS RESPOND TO SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS  
OFFERED BY MCCOY IN REFTEL A.

2. INADEQUATE ASSISTANCE OFFERED US CITIZENS.

A. GENERAL. MCCOY, AND AS MANY AS 20 OTHER AMERICAN CITIZENS,  
WERE UNABLE TO DEPART DACCA ON INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS FROM AUGUST  
15 WHEN COUP D'ETAT OCCURRED, UNTIL AUGUST 20 WHEN INTERNATIONAL  
FLIGHTS WERE FIRST PERMITTED BY NEW GOVERNMENT TO LEAVE DACCA.  
THESE AMERICANS WERE UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR SAFETY  
AND ONWARD TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS. MCCOY ENERGETICALLY ORGANIZED  
MEETINGS AT HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL OF AMERICANS AND OTHER EXPA-  
TRIATES WHO BECAME PARTICULARLY IMPATIENT WITH ENFORCED DELAY  
AND INABILITY PLAN AHEAD IN ABSENCE FIRM INFORMATION AS TO  
WHEN FLIGHTS WOULD BE RESUMED. COMBINATION OF ENFORCED IDLENESS  
AND ABSENCE FLIGHT INFO LED MCCOY AND OTHERS TO PROPOSE IMAGINA-  
TIVE WAYS OF MEETING PROBLEM, INCLUDING PICKETING NEW PRESIDENT'S  
HOUSE TO AROUSE WORLD OPINION, URGING USG TO SEND IN MILITARY  
EVACUATION FLIGHT, ORGANIZING CONVOY OF EMBASSY CARS TO DRIVE TO  
CALCUTTA, SECRETLY SAILING ON CARGO STEAMSHIP, ETC.

B. FAILURE INFORM MCCOY ADEQUATELY. VICE CONSUL DISCUSSED

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SITUATION WITH MCCOY ON TELEPHONE AUGUST 15 (DAY OF COUP) AND

AGAIN, AUGUST 16. IN AUGUST 17 TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH MCCOY, ECON OFFICER OFFERED BRIEFING TO GROUP OF US CITIZENS AT INTERCONTINENTAL. ON AUGUST 18 ECON AND CONSULAR OFFICERS MET ABOUT 20 US CITIZENS AND SOME OTHER EXPATRIATES IN HOTEL IN CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE, BRIEFED GROUP ON POST-COUP SITUATION, INCLUDING SAFETY OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AND UNCERTAINTIES REGARDING RESUMPTION OF FLIGHTS.

C. UNWILLINGNESS ALERT RELATIVES. EMBOFFS AT AUGUST 18 MEETING SPECIFICALLY OFFERED, DESPITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS MINIMIZE, TO SEND INTERESTED PARTY MESSAGES TO RELATIVES OF US CITIZENS (NO INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL TELEGRAMS OR TELEPHONE CALLS WERE PERMITTED FROM DACCA DURING THIS PERIOD). WE SENT INTERESTED PARTY MESSAGES FOR ALL US FIRMS AND CITIZENS WHO SO REQUESTED, (E.G. REFTEL B).

D. INTERESTED PARTY MESSAGES. ONLY INTERESTED PARTY MESSAGE SENT WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO MCCOY WAS REFTEL B, WHICH ADDRESSED TO WATERMAN STEAMSHIP LINES, NEW YORK. EMBOFF READ PORTION CONCERNING MCCOY TO HIM OVER TELEPHONE AND HE REDRAFTED THAT SECTION. IT REMAINS POSSIBLE THAT WATERMAN OFFICE MIGHT NOT HAVE RELAYED MESSAGE TO MRS. MCCOY. EMBASSY ALSO SENT REGULAR TELEGRAM, REFTEL C, IN RESPONSE TO CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY, REFTEL D, RECEIVED AFTER MCCOY'S DEPARTURE AUGUST 20.

E. APATHETIC ATTITUDE. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT TOOK KEEN AND SYMPATHETIC INTEREST IN PROBLEMS FACED BY US TRAVELLERS UNABLE DEPART BANGLADESH. AMBASSADOR PERSONALLY RAISED MATTER AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY (FOREIGN MINISTER WAS ABROAD) AT AUGUST 18 MEETING (REFTEL E). FOREIGN SECRETARY REPLIED TO AMBASSADOR BY PHONE AUGUST 19 THAT DECISION TAKEN TO RESUME FLIGHTS AUGUST 20. AMBASSADOR MET WITH MCCOY IN CHANCERY AUGUST 19 TO REPORT FAVORABLE OUTCOME, AND MCCOY'S REMARKS GAVE NO HINT OF ALLEGATIONS IN REFTEL A. MCCOY DEPARTED DACCA AUGUST 20.

3. IGNORANCE REGARDING JUTE. EMBOFF HAD MET MCCOY AT AUGUST 13 LUNCHEON FOR AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE SIDDIQUI OFFERED BY BANGLADESH JUTE INDUSTRIES CORPORATION CHAIRMAN. EMBOFF, EAGER TO BENEFIT FROM JUDGMENT OF EXPERIENCED COMMODITY TRADER, ASKED MCCOY US UNCLASSIFIED

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TRADERS' ATTITUDES TOWARD BANGLADESH VIS-A-VIS OTHER SOURCES OF JUTE AND IN TURN SUPPLIED INFORMATION CONCERNING BDG JUTE CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS.  
BOSTER

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